

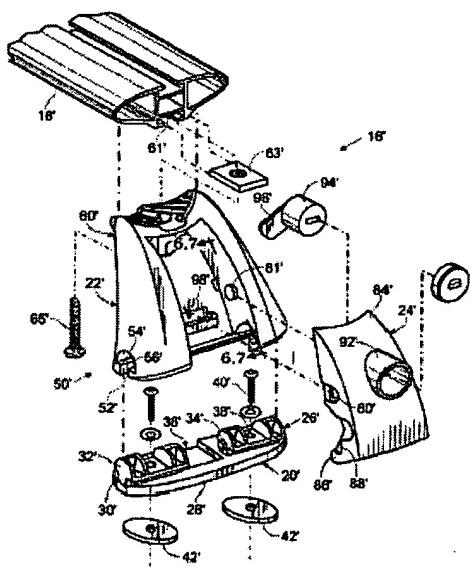
Rejection of the Claims

With regard to claim 1 and the Examiner's objection that the planar surface of the cover does not "substantially" cover the opening in the housing, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite "a sliding cover having a substantially planar surface adapted for digital engagement by a user and said sliding cover being user-transitionable between a closed position in which the push-button is blocked from passing through the opening and an open position in which the push-button is permitted to pass through the opening." It is respectfully asserted that no new matter has been added, and the presently recited limitations are supported and enabled by the specification as originally filed; more specifically, reference is made to original Figs. 1 and 4 and the original specification at at least paragraphs [0056] and [0057]. Still further, Figs. 14a and 14b clearly illustrate this recited subject matter.

In view of the amendments made to claim 1 and the comments contained herein relating thereto, it is respectfully asserted that claim 1 is allowable in view 35 USC 112 as well as the cited Settelmayer '048 patent (see Fig. 5 from that reference duplicated immediately below) that does not disclose, teach or suggest a push-button actuator nor a sliding cover having those features recited in Applicant's claim 1.

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Fig. 5



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With regard to claim 2, an amendment has been affected to recite that a plurality of frictional ridges are present on the surface of the sliding cover 110.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow the claims.

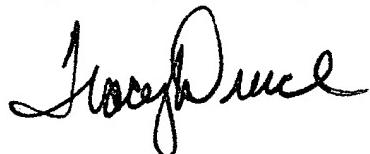
It is believed that the above changes place the application in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1437, referencing Order No. 7298.0039.CNUS01.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,



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